

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. Claims 1-13 are in the application. Claims 2 and 4-12 have been amended. Claim 1 and 13 have been cancelled. Claim 14 has been added and incorporates only those limitations in canceled claim 1.

The specification was objected to because the arrangement of the original specification was not in accordance with PCT Administrative Instruction Section 204. The specification has been amended to include the appropriate section headings. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection on this basis be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 8 and 10 were objected to for failure to observe formalities for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. The claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Claim 1 has been canceled, however new claim 14 has all the limitations of cancelled claim 1. Claim 8 has been amended to replace "lie" with "dispose." Claim 10 has been amended to replace "lies" with "positions."

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for the embodiments as shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 5 for the claimed invention as recited in claim 1 for the reasons set forth in page 3 of the Office Action. In response, Applicant overcomes this rejection by cancelling claim 1 and providing new claim 14 which has the same limitations as canceled claim 1. Applicant clarifies which forward gears are connected to each shaft.

Claims 2-7 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failure to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 2 lines 14-15, "a direct gear" has been replaced with "the direct gear."

In claim 4 line 4, "the reversing mode" has been replaced with "a reversing mode."

In claim 5 lines 3-4, "the reversing mode" has been replaced with "a reversing mode."

In claim 6 lines 3-4, "the reversing mode" has been replaced with "a reversing mode."

In claim 7 line 3, "the number s" has been replaced with "a number s."

In claim 11 line 3, "the first forward gear" has been replaced with "a first forward gear." In line 7, "the input-side clutches" has been replaced with "input-side clutches."

In claim 12 line 4, "the first reverse gear" has been replaced with "a first reverse gear."

Claim 13 has been withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that all currently pending claims fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejections on this basis be withdrawn.

Claims 1-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,612,787 to H.T. Youngren, et al. ("Youngren") and under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,140,267 to Haka ("Haka").

Essentially the Examiner's position was that Youngren and Haka disclose the double countershaft transmission of the present invention.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Since claim 1 has been canceled and new claim 14 has been added with the same limitations as cancelled claim 1, reference will be made to new claim 14. As set forth in claim 14, the sleeves (24, 38) are arranged coaxially to the output shaft (12) and are assigned to two forward gears. In the transmission according to Youngren, the sleeves (58, 62) arranged coaxially to the output shaft (16) are assigned only to one forward gear (sleeve 62 is assigned to direct gear, col. 7 ln. 5-22, and sleeve 58 is assigned to third gear, col 6., ln. 51-71). The transmission according to the present invention has seven forward gears, while the transmission according to Youngren has only four forward gears. Also, the sleeves in Youngren are directly beside each other, which makes it not possible to modify the transmission to conform of Youngren to the present invention.

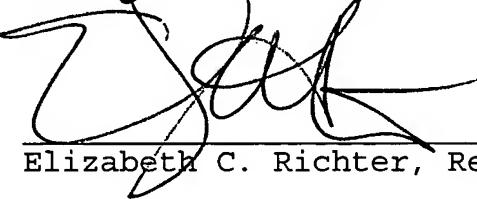
To overcome the 102(e) rejection over Haka, Applicant hereby files a certified English translation of the priority document. Based upon this filing, it is believed that the Applicant can now

rely on his priority date of August 1, 2003 to overcome Haka that has a 102(e) date of October 22, 2003.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 14 is patentable over the cited references. Since claims 2-12 depend upon claim 14, it is also respectfully requested that claims 2-12 are patentable over the cited references.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,  
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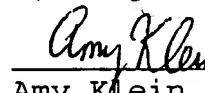
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Enclosures: Copy of petition for one-month extension of time  
Certified Copy of the Priority Document and  
Statement from Translator

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 5, 2008.



Amy Klein